

MINUTES

The Mayor and City Council conducted a budget workshop meeting on Wednesday, May 13, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. in the meeting room at the Corbin Library.

PRESENT

Barry Dize, Mayor
LaVerne Johnson, Council Vice President
Barbara Ward, Councilwoman
Nelson Sheppard, Councilman
Jimmy Ford, Councilman
Mike Atkins, Councilman
Joyce L. Morgan, Clerk-Treasurer, (via Zoom)
Michael Sullivan, (via Zoom)
Dean Bozman, (via Zoom)
Kristie Eberly, (via Zoom)

Also in attendance; Valerie Swift, Secretary; Richard Crumbacker; and William Berryhill.

Mayor Dize called the meeting to order and noted that the purpose is to review the proposed budget for 2020-2021. He advised that he would be reviewing each section and asked the Council to jot down any questions for review at the end of the workshop.

Mayor Dize went on to review the Revenue portion of the budget.

Councilman Ford inquired if the City charges \$300/any property that we cut. Mayor Dize advised that this is correct. Councilman Ford also inquired about Traders License revenue of \$1,000.

Mrs. Morgan advised that this is a pass-through that comes from the County and there are rules that apply as to what can be collected.

Councilman Atkins inquired if the income is based on last year's budget. Mayor Dize advised that there are no new revenues.

Councilman Sheppard inquired if the City can handle the issuance of Traders License. Mrs. Morgan advised that we cannot issue the license, as they are State license.

Councilman Atkins inquired about taxes, local-uncollectable. Mrs. Morgan advised per the Auditor, the City reduces the amount due to unpaid taxes at the end of the year; only real estate taxes.

Councilman Atkins commented about \$15K from mowing and asked if the City collects all of that. Mrs. Morgan advised that this is a low figure, but \$15K is about what we collect.

Mayor Dize went on to review the expense side of the budget.

Mayor Dize also noted that the fire department needs funding to become ADA compliant. He went on to note that Mr. Bob Mayne will be doing all inspections for Mr. Bozman. Councilman Atkins made reference to mosquito control expenditures and advised that we should not kill them because mosquito hawks kill more mosquitoes than spraying does. Once we spray, the mosquito hawks are killed off as well. He asked that we follow up on opting out of mosquito control.

Mrs. Morgan also noted that she has received notification from the state that income tax and HUR may be reduced. She advised waiting on further paving until we receive the projected revenue.

Mayor Dize continued to review expenses. He made reference to the tide gate grant. Mrs. Eberly noted that the grant is for all of the tide gates and two pump stations. She advised that the grant is only for engineering.

Mayor Dize noted that the City would be presenting a balanced budget.

Council Vice President Johnson inquired about grant salaries. Mayor Dize noted that this is for grants that CAC Bernice Evans obtains.

Councilman Sheppard made reference to looking into solar street lights. Mrs. Morgan noted that she had met with a DP & L rep concerning LED lights and advised that DP & L is doing an audit, but she does not have the results yet. She advised that she would look into this as well as Councilman Atkins Mosquito control concern and Councilman Ford's concern about Traders License.

Councilman Atkins made reference to the \$196K for the ambulance squad from the County. He inquired if the squad does their own billing and collection. Mrs. Morgan noted that they collect for their operating budget.

Councilman Atkins inquired about the amount of \$67K for legal expense. Mrs. Morgan advised that this increased based on the previous year's expense.

Councilman Atkins made reference to tide gates and the \$32K for engineering only. He inquired if we have the gates and just need the money for installation. Mr. Bozman advised that Phase I is done and we have put a grant in for another project. Mrs. Morgan noted that the City had to hire an installer for the last project.

Councilman Atkins inquired about Bay Restoration. Mrs. Morgan noted that this is billed on the water bill and comes in and goes out to the State.

Councilman Atkins made reference to construction of new hangars at the airport. Mrs. Morgan advised that the City has been on hold with UMES since January, as well as for the new fuel system.

Mayor Dize also noted that there would be no funds available in the Police Department budget for participation in LEOPS as this has been placed on hold.

Mrs. Morgan also noted that by the end of May, the traders license fee would be about \$5K. She noted that First Reader of the Budget would be done at the next meeting , with a public hearing prior to the second reader.

There being no further business for discussion, Councilman Atkins made a motion to adjourn the work session. Motion seconded by Council Vice President Johnson and carried unanimously 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce L. Morgan, Clerk-Treasurer

Prepared by Valerie Swift, Secretary